Antonia's Boutique & Gifts

TAKE ME TO GREECE TOUR - SEPTEMBER 10-23, 2024

JOIN US ON A 13 DAY/12 NIGHT GUIDED TOUR THROUGH SOME OF GREECE'S MOST ICONIC SIGHTS. OUR CUSTOMIZED JOURNEY EXPLORES CLASSICAL AND MODERN GREECE WITH VISITS TO ATHENS, DELPHI, METEORA, THESSALONIKI, SANTORINI, AND MYKONOS.

DEPARTURE – SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 (WE WILL PROVIDE AN OPTION FOR AIRFARE WITH OUR GROUP AT A DISCOUNTED GROUP RATE – PRICING AVAILABLE IN LATE MARCH 2024 – GUESTS CAN FLY SEPARATELY AND WILL BE GREETED IN ATHENS FOR OUR PRIVATE TRANSFER TO OUR HOTEL AS NOTED BELOW)

DAY 1. WELCOME TO ATHENS

09/11/24

Upon arrival at the Eleftherios Venizelos Airport (Athens) we will be greeted by our driver and transferred in our private Mercedes Sprinter to the Acropolis City Life hotel. Our boutique accommodation in the heart of Athens provides walking access to the city's main attractions, including Syntagma Square. The main city square houses the Greek Parliament and is located in front of the 19th century Old Royal Palace. Take a short walk with us to see Constitution Square (Syntagma), the House of Parliament, and the Evzones (elite light infantry and mountain units of the Greek army) in their picturesque uniform guarding the Memorial to the Unknown Soldier. Afterward, rest or enjoy some time walking through the picturesque neighborhood of Plaka known for its charming walkways and unique architecture. Our hotel also offers walking access to Psyri and its vibrant artist community. In the evening, join us for an included happy hour on our hotel's roof deck. Take in amazing views of the Athens Acropolis before we venture out to our included welcome dinner (Taverna Night) at a local eatery. Enjoy your included dinner with our tour group in an authentic setting. Return to our hotel for the evening.

DAY 2. ATHENS SIGHTSEEING

09/12/24

Included breakfast at our hotel and open morning to adjust to the local time. Our guided sightseeing tour will begin in the early afternoon with a visit to the Acropolis of Athens. Situated on a rocky hill overlooking the city, the Acropolis is one of the most famous and iconic

monuments of the ancient world. Standing in harmony within their natural settings you will see the Propylaea, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheion and finally, the Parthenon. Learn all about this wonder of the ancient world. You will also catch a birds-eye view of the Herodion Theatre and the Theatre of Dionysus. Next, we will visit the world-renowned New Acropolis Museum of Athens which houses the Karyatides and many of the original pieces from the Parthenon; one of the wonders of the ancient world. Our guided tour includes whisper electronics so you catch every word from our experienced guide. Following our guided tour of the museum, we will enjoy some free time but will walk through Plaka and will be able to stop at a local cafe for an open lunch or to enjoy some ice cream and coffee. Enjoy the shops in the oldest section of Athens. Plaka offers some beautiful jewelry and leather stores, clothing boutiques, and shops with unique gifts. In the evening, we will enjoy a wine tasting in our hotel as we see the sunset over the Acropolis, and then dine at Athens' finest restaurant at the foothills of the Acropolis; Dionysos Zonars. Our included dinner will be an upscale dining experience at a jewel sitting among historic monuments.

DAY 3. CENTRAL ATHENS – COOKING CLASS

09/13/24

Included breakfast at our hotel and an open morning and early afternoon. Visit the traditional retail shops in Plaka, stroll through the National Gardens, or take a ride to the Athens Riviera and the upscale shopping district in Glyfada. Interested parties can join us for an optional excursion to Aristotle's Lyceum peripatetic school, and to the Panathinaic Stadium (Kalimarmaro) which housed the first modern Olympic games that took place in 1896. The stadium is impressive both for its history and its shape, which was designed to seat more than 70,000 spectators on a surface completely covered in white marble from Mount Penteli; the same used to build the Parthenon. Our early evening excursion will be a unique Greek cooking experience where our expert instructor will teach us the secrets of traditional cooking as we prepare a delicious range of Greek dishes which we will enjoy as part of our dinner with wine and soft drinks. After concluding our dinner, enjoy some free time in central Athens.

DAY 4. ATHENS – DELPHI -- KALABAKA

9/14/24

Included breakfast at our hotel before checking out for our land tour to Delphi and Kalabaka. We will drive through the fertile plains of Boeotia, crossing the town of Thebes. Thebes played an important role in Greek myths as the site of the tragedy of King Oedipus. Our first stop will be Delphi. Delphi is an ancient sanctuary, known as the center of the ancient world which was marked by a stone monument known as the "Omphalos" (Navel of Earth) – whose prestige extended far beyond the boundaries of the Hellenic World. It was the seat of the oracle who was consulted about important decisions throughout the ancient classical world. On the slopes of

Mount Parnassus, in a landscape of unparalleled beauty, lie the ruins of the Sanctuary of Apollo Pythios, the Treasury of the Athenians, the Temple of Apollo and the museum containing masterpieces of Ancient Greek sculpture such as the bronze Charioteer and the famous athlete Aghias. We will enjoy a guided tour of this UNESCO world heritage site and museum by a licensed archaeologist. After concluding our tour of Delphi, we will enjoy an included lunch at a local taverna before stopping at the picturesque mountain village of Arachova. Take in the mountain views and enjoy some shopping in Arachova, well known for its attractive hand-woven carpets, rugs and quilts, as well as for its wine and cheese. Enjoy this quaint village before our departure for Kalabaka. We will drive north through the Greek mainland and upon arrival in Kalabaka, we will check in to our hotel and relax for the evening.

DAY 5. METEORA MONASTERIES

9/15/24

Included breakfast at our hotel and a relaxing morning before our guided 11 a.m. excursion to Meteora. Meteora is a UNESCO World Heritage site and the second most visited archaeological site in Greece. It is widely considered one of the most magical places on earth. Meteora (meaning "Suspended in the Air") is a geological phenomenon on the Greek mainland near the town of Kalabaka. It was first settled by hermit monks in the 11th century. The rock formations of Meteora are comprised of pinnacles towering 400 meters into the sky. Meteora hosts one of the largest and precipitously built complexes of Eastern Orthodox monasteries. The remaining 6 of the original 24 monasteries are built on immense natural pillars and hill-like rounded boulders. Our tour includes guided visits to two monasteries and a picture stop at the main observation deck of Meteora. We will also enjoy a workshop at a Byzantine Icon Manufacturer's Studio. Following our tour, we will enjoy an included dinner in a traditional Epirotic restaurant and try many local specialties before returning to our hotel for the evening.

DAY 6. NORTHERN GREECE - THESSALONIKI - SANTORINI

9/16/24

Included breakfast at our hotel and we will depart for the continuation of our land tour through Northern Greece to Thessaloniki prior to our included flight to Santorini. Thessaloniki is Greece's second major economic, industrial, commercial and political center. It was founded in 315 BC by military general Cassander of Macedon, who named it after his wife Thessalonike, daughter of Phillip II of Macedon and sister of Alexander the Great. We will visit the famed White Tower; the symbol of Thessaloniki. The tower was constructed in the 16th century by the Ottomans and it was used as a fortress, a prison and a university workshop. Today it serves as a museum. We will also see the Arch of Galerius and the statue of Alexander the Great. We will stop for a light snack before heading to the airport for our included flight to Santorini. Upon arrival, we will meet our private bus for our transfer to the Costa Grand Resort and Spa along Kamari Beach. Kamari Beach hosts a number of restaurants, shops, cafes, and lounges (all within walking distance from our hotel).

DAY 7. SANTORINI – KAMARI BEACH

9/17/24

Included breakfast at our hotel and enjoy a leisure day. Relax at one of our resort's six pools, book a massage or spa treatment at the Costa Grand, take a swim in the mediterranean sea, or walk along the black sand beach of Kamari. For those interested in more activity, we will provide a list of additional sites not included in our tour for you to explore at your leisure. In the evening, enjoy the beachfront community and dine in one of the many restaurants along the boardwalk on Kamari Beach.

DAY 8. SANTORINI – ESTATE ARGYROS WINERY – AKROTIRI - FIRA

9/18/24

Included breakfast at our hotel. Enjoy a relaxing morning before we depart for our early afternoon food and wine tasting at Estate Argyros winery. Estate Argyros was established in 1903 and is the largest private owner of vineyards in Santorini. Our afternoon will begin with a guided tour of the production facilities and vineyards. Learn about the topography of Santorini and the natural elements which produce some amazing wines. We will enjoy a tutored tasting of Estate Argyros' wines coupled with artisanal cheeses and cold cuts. The second part of our Santorini land tour then takes us to the southern point of the island for a guided tour of the archaeological site of Akrotiri (known as the Greek Pompei). Akrotiri is a bronze age settlement which was destroyed by the Theran volcanic eruption in the 16th century BC. The site was excavated in the 1960s and is well preserved. Learn about the history of the Minoans and this ancient settlement on our guided tour. Afterward, we will continue our tour to Santorini's central point and the town of Fira. We will enjoy the spectacular sunset from the calderra on a rooftop overlooking the Aegean Sea. Appetizers and light snacks will be provided, and drinks will be available for purchase. We will then return to our hotel for the evening. Enjoy an open dinner along Kamari beach or dine at the Costa Grand Resort.

DAY 9. SANTORINI – OIA – SUNSET SAILING TOUR

9/19/24

Included breakfast at our hotel. Enjoy some time to shop, or relax at our resort. We will depart at 2p.m. and travel to Vlychada port where we will board a catamaran for a Sunset Sailing Tour. Our excursion begins with stops at the Red and White Beaches for swimming and snorkeling. We will enjoy an early barbeque dinner on board. We will then sail past Indian Rock, the

Ancient Lighthouse and Aspronisi. We will make another stop at the Hot Springs for swimming before sailing to Oia to watch the sunset. Oia is the most visited village on the island of Santorini and boasts what are widely regarded as the most spectacular sunsets in the world. Enjoy views of the blue domed churches built into the side of the calderra before our return transfer to our hotel.

DAY 10. MYKONOS

9/20/24

We will meet in the lobby for our private transfer to Athinios Port for our high speed ferry ride to Mykonos. Enjoy views of Santorini as we sail north of Oia. Upon arrival in Mykonos we will be greeted by our driver and transferred to our hotel; Vencia Boutique above Mykonos Town. Enjoy the amenities of our resort and an open evening. Join us early in the evening for an included sunset cocktail and then stroll into Mykonos town and dine in one of its many great restaurants. We will provide dining recommendations should you choose to venture off on your own. Or join us for an open dinner (not included) at a local establishment. Enjoy the narrow walkways in Mykonos town and the vibrant nightlife and interesting shops before returning to our hotel.

DAY 11. MYKONOS – ORNOS BEACH – PRIVATE CATAMARAN CRUISE

9/21/24

Included breakfast at our hotel. We will then meet our driver for our private transfer to Ornos Beach to board our private chartered 58 ft. catamaran for our private half-day cruise to Rhenia and Delos. We will enjoy a day on the Aegean and pass one of the most important mythological, historical, and archaeological sites in Greece. Delos, near the center of the Cycladic archipelago, had a position as a holy sanctuary for a millennium before Olympian Greek Mythology made it the birthplace of Apollo and Artemis. UNESCO inscribed Delos on the World Heritage List in 1990. Our sailing tour includes stops for swimming and water activities. We will enjoy included beverages and a freshly prepared 4-course lunch. Upon return to Ornos Beach, enjoy a walk along the beach before our private coach transfers us back to our hotel for an open evening. Interested parties can join us for an a la carte dinner (not included) at Kalita Restaurant in Mykonos town.

DAY 12. MYKONOS - ATHENS

9/22/24

Included breakfast at our hotel. We will then meet our driver for our private transfer to the new port of Mykonos where we will board Sea Jets Ferry and sail back to Athens. Upon arrival at the port of Piraeus, we will meet our driver and board our private coach for our transfer to the

Acropolic City Life hotel for our overnight stay. Enjoy some time browsing the shops in Plaka or resting at our hotel. We will then enjoy included happy hour drinks at our hotel and our included farewell dinner at a local eatery.

DAY 13. ATHENS

9/23/24

Included breakfast at our hotel. Depending on departure time, breakfast may include box items. We will then meet our driver for our private transfer to the Athens International Airport for our return flight home.

* Hotel Accommodations are as follows:

- Athens Acropolis City Life (or similar 4* Hotel);
- Kalabaka/Meteora Divani Palace (or similar 4* Hotel);
- Santorini Costa Grand Resort and Spa (or similar 4* Hotel);
- Mykonos Vencia Boutique Mykonos Town (or similar 4* Hotel).

* Ferries and times are subject to change.

* 12 night tour includes daily breakfast and meals as indicated (3 lunches and 6 dinners

including 5 star dining experience at Dionysos Zonars)

* Happy Hours Drinks in Athens Included as indicated

* Transfers and Private Tours Aboard Private Deluxe Air-Conditioned Coach Buses Included

- * Sailing Tours in Santorini and Mykonos Included
- * Santorini Food and Wine Experience Included
- * Professional Licensed Coach Drivers
- * Professional Accredited Tour Guides
- * Ferry Transfers between Santorini and Mykonos / Mykonos and Athens Included
- * Airfare between Thessaloniki and Santorini Included
- * Entrance Fees to Museums and Sites Visited During Tours Included
- * All tips for tour activities, tour guides, drivers, included meals, and portage Included
- * An overnight tax will be due by tour guests at each hotel at the rate of 4 Euro per room
- * Roundtrip Airfare from the U.S. to Athens not included

(We are working on obtaining a group rate for discounted round trip airfare from Tampa, Florida to Athens which may be available for purchase in the near future)

THIS TOUR WILL SELL OUT. LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE (20 PASSENGERS) HIGH LEVEL OF ACTIVITY – WALKING AND STEPS/UNEVEN SURFACES AT ARCHAELOGICAL SITES

VISIT OUR WEBSITE, FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM PAGES FOR PICTURES AND REVIEWS FROM OUR TAKE ME TO GREECE TOURS

WEB: <u>www.greektownimports.com</u>

FACEBOOK: Antonia's Boutique & Gifts Tarpon Springs INSTAGRAM: antoniasboutique_tarponsprings

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

PER PERSON RATE IS \$4,899 US DOLLARS (BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)

- SINGLE ROOM OCCUPANT SUPPLEMENT IS \$2,000
- LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE
- RESERVE WITH A REFUNDABLE INITIAL DEPOSIT OF \$1,000.00
- ADDITIONAL DEPOSIT OF \$1,500.00 DUE BY FEBRUARY 1, 2024
- BALANCE DUE BY MAY 31, 2024
- CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO A 3% SURCHARGE

CANCELLATION POLICY

FULL REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATIONS RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2024.

FOR BOOKING OR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US AT:

ANTONIA'S BOUTIQUE AND GIFTS TEL: 727-937-4777 EMAIL: INFO@GREEKTOWNIMPORTS.COM